

RESOLUTIONS  
OF  
THE LEGISLATURE OF MAINE,

IN FAVOR

*Of a railroad from Lake Michigan to the Pacific, on the plan proposed  
by Mr. Whitney.*

DECEMBER 13, 1847.

Read, and ordered to be printed.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVES relating to the construction of a railroad from lake Michigan to the Pacific coast.

*Resolved,* That a railroad from lake Michigan to the Pacific coast is highly desirable, and, if practicable, should be constructed. Such a work would open a vast and unbroken wilderness for improvement and cultivation, would unite and bind together the people of the Atlantic and Pacific slopes, by connecting their interests and associations, would extend our commerce, advance the welfare of our manufactures, and elevate the dignity of man.

*Resolved,* That, in our opinion, the best, if not the only plan by which so stupendous a work can be accomplished, is to appropriate and set apart the public lands along the line of the same, and to pledge the proceeds of sale to that object, thus making the sale and settlement of these lands subservient to this great enterprise.

*Resolved,* That the plan of Asa Whitney, esq., of New York, as explained by himself, meets our cordial approval, and we concur in recommending it.

*Resolved,* That our senators and representatives in Congress be requested, by their votes and acts to promote said object, by granting the right and power to Asa Whitney, esq., to construct said road, if practicable, and to pledge the public lands along the line of said work, to erect the same in such manner as will promote and secure the rights and interests of the whole Union, and best serve to accomplish the desired results.

*Resolved,* That the Governor cause copies of these resolutions to be furnished to the governors of each of the States respectively, and also to each of our senators and representatives in Congress.

In House of Representatives, June 8, 1847.—Read and passed.

H. D. McLELLAN, *Speaker.*

In Senate, June 10, 1847.—Read and passed.

JOHN HODGDON, *President.*

June 14, 1847.—Approved :

JOHN W. DANA.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, AUGUSTA, *June 15, 1847.*

I hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true copy of the original, deposited in this office.

EZRA B. FRENCH,  
*Secretary of State.*

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STATE OF MAINE, SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
*Augusta, June 19, 1847.*

SIR: In compliance with the direction contained in the fifth section of "resolves relating to the construction of a railroad from lake Michigan to the Pacific coast," passed by the legislature of Maine on the 10th instant, the Governor, through this department, transmits to you a copy of said resolves, together with assurances of distinguished consideration.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,  
EZRA B. FRENCH,  
*Secretary of State.*